

During last year's [United Nations climate change negotiations](#) in Copenhagen, nations from around the world rejected signing a binding international treaty due to broad disagreement over which countries should bear the costs and make economic sacrifices in order to address climate change. Despite the failure of last year's negotiations, representatives of those countries, including the United States, are gathered once again in Cancun, Mexico to continue this misguided discussion focused on expanding the unsuccessful policies of the Kyoto Protocol.

I strongly oppose any effort – either through so-called “cap and trade” legislation or by damaging government [regulation](#) – that seeks to place arbitrary limits on greenhouse gas emissions that will achieve nothing except to increase energy prices for American families and send jobs overseas. As such, I was very concerned to see

[media reports](#)

indicating that U.S. negotiators in Cancun are making commitments on behalf of the U.S. Congress for legislation to reduce emissions. These reports show that the Administration is speaking falsely on behalf of the U.S. Congress and ignoring the viewpoints of the American people who clearly voiced their opposition to cap and tax, among other issues, this past November.

For these reasons, I joined several Members of Congress this week in sending a [letter](#) to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton to reiterate our opposition to cap and tax policies and to request that U.S. negotiators not mislead the global community and raise false expectations that the United States will submit itself to a damaging and oppressive policy that will weaken our economy and compromise U.S. sovereignty. Meanwhile, I will continue to push for balanced energy

[policies](#)

that allow us to develop our abundant domestic energy supplies while creating jobs and continuing to grow our economy.